



Nevada GEAR UP Program – Year Three

Subgrantee: Clark County School District

Name of School: Desert Pines High School
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Desert Pines High School Abstract

Student achievement, college preparation, career awareness, and parental involvement will be the focus of Desert Pines High School's 2004 GEAR UP Program. These four areas will help our students fortify the skills and knowledge previously learned in their first two GEAR UP years and continue to prepare them in their progress as college bound students. Our GEAR UP Program will focus on involving and educating the family in the decision making process. The theme for the four-year program will be "Getting into GEAR: Shifting into action focusing on 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th gears (i.e. years in the program) and their status or progression on the road—overdrive, neutral, or reverse". We will use this theme throughout the year to shift our student and parent focus from entry into high school, to graduation from high school with at least a 2.0 GPA, and participation in higher education by attending a postsecondary institution of learning.

We will use various academic support programs to address student achievement. Tutoring sessions will be offered to students identified as failing two or more classes after the first nine weeks in 1st and 2nd semester. Credit retrieval classes will also be offered to all students who failed a core class at the semester. The assigned counselor and the GEAR UP clerk will review academic progress of students each quarter.

College preparation and career awareness will be attained through the use of the College and Career Resource Center, college visits, and partnerships formed with businesses in the community. The resource center will house computers for access to college information, career interest inventories, computer programs and manuals to practice college placement exams, monthly guest speakers, college catalogues, scholarship material, and other college and career related materials. Regular fieldtrips to the Community College of Southern Nevada, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and Nevada State College will allow students to become more comfortable and familiar with the service provided by each of these institutions.

The parent component will assist parents with information about the GEAR UP Program and our school activities, as well as increase awareness of the scholarship and financial aid opportunities available to their students through the GEAR UP Program and other community resources. Parents of 9th grade students will be invited to attend fieldtrips, monthly Guest speaker visits, College and Career Fairs, Semester Seminars, as well as the opportunity to volunteer in the College and Career Resource Center. By involving the parents we are educating them and allowing them to assist their children in making more informed decisions in relation to college and career options.

A main focus of the GEAR UP Program here at DPHS is developing a good working understanding of the Career Center and all that it offers for college preparation. Students will participate in the Online Career and Interest Assessment computer program in order to create a career focus. The students will complete various writing assignments that address career options and the post education requirements relating to those career options.